Share of North Eastern States in the above is as under

(Amount in Rs. Lakhs)

SI.No.	Name of State	Grosss Credit	% to all India total
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	11163	0.02
2.	Assam	318617	5.92
3.	Manipur	16532	0.03
4.	Meghalaya	57904	0.11
5.	Mizoram	14344	0.02
6.	Nagaland	15282	0.02
7.	Tripura	36244	0.07
	TOTAL;	470086	0.87

Rate of interest on savings

1365. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prevailing rate of interest on savings bank account is less than the rate of inflation;

(b) if so, what will be its impact on small savings if such a situation continues;

(c) whether Government are considering higher rate of interest to encourage savings for future security;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the Reserve Bank of India, the present interest rate on savings deposit rate is well aligned with the small savings deposits and other short term deposit rates like, Post Office savings, National

Savings Certificates (Vlll-issue), Kisan Vikas Patra, Public Provident Fund and 8% (taxable) Saving Bond. The Union Budget 2004-05 had also announced a deposit scheme for Senior Citizens offering an annual return of 9% which is now under operation through the post offices. At present the returns offered by the small savings schemes, except post office savings account are higher than the current average rate of inflation of 5.32% (as on 24.7.2004). Moreover, the effective return on these Shemes improves significantly if relevant tax benefits are taken into account.

(c) No, Sir.

.(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Kisan Credit Cards

1366. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the target fixed for issue of Kisan Credit Cards to the farmers and how many cards have actually been issued during the last three years, till date;

(b) what is the target for the Commercial Banks and Co-operative Banks: and

(c) whether it is a fact that the percentage of achieving the target is much higher in case of Co-operative Banks than that of Commercial Banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINACE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) The details of the target fixed for issue of Kisan Credit Cards (KCCs) and the KCCs issued, during the last three years, till date, as reported by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) are indicated below: